



Vehicle Safety and Standards

NOTICE

To All Designated Inspection Facilities and Authorized Inspectors

Re: Provisional timeframe for application of mud flap inspection standards

Effective **July 1, 2016**, a new 2016 Vehicle Inspection Manual (VIM) has been brought into force and is now the required reference for all provincial vehicle inspections. Following a 90 day transition period on **September 30, 2016**, mechanical safety inspections conducted by Authorized Inspectors at Designated Inspection Facility's must apply the criteria noted in the 2016 version.

In the Vehicle Inspection Manual (2016), the mud flap criterion has changed considerably from the 2010 version.

Most notably, the 2010 version allowed:

1. A variance in the length of mud flaps of the differential length measurement on application of the 1/3 rule¹ where the 1/3 rule was not met; and
2. A max distance of 14 inches from the ground to the bottom of the mud flaps (where required).

The 2016 version:

1. Does not allow a variance in mud flap length where the 1/3 rule is not met; Full application of mud flap requirements are applicable when the 1/3 rule² is not met by body dimensions; and
2. Requires a max distance of 8.25 inches from the ground to the bottom of the mud flaps (where required).

Application

Effective **July 1, 2016**, CVSE will be providing the commercial transport industry a 12 month transitional period ending **July 1, 2017**. This provided transitional period **ONLY** applies to the mud flap criteria respective to the distance from the bottom of the mud flap to the ground if the distance exceeds 210mm as noted in the 2016 VIM.

Condition and Location	Reject if the distance from the bottom of the mud flap to the ground exceeds 210mm (8.25 inches)
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¹ distance from ground to bottom of mud flap exceeds 1/3 of the horizontal distance from mud flap or body overhang to centre of the wheel – where the 1/3 rule cannot be applied due to vehicle configuration, the bottom of mudflap is more than 14 in. from ground, measured when the vehicle is not loaded

² A mud flap is not required where the body overhang is more than three times the underbody height.

Overhang = (A) the distance from the vertical centre line of the tire to the end of the body

Underbody height = (B) the distance from the bottom of the body overhang to the ground

During this transitional period, vehicles that do not meet the required minimum mud flap length are permitted to pass a provincial inspection.

Authorized Inspectors may provide a pass with caution for mud flaps on the inspection report and must make a note that a vehicle that does not meet the required lengths and indicate the length of the failed mud flap(s) on the inspection report.

Vehicles must not pass inspection without meeting **ALL** other specified mud flap and applicable requirements in the 2016 Vehicle Inspection Manual.

All provincial vehicle inspections must be conducted in accordance with all criteria and standards contained in the new Manual to be considered compliant with *Motor Vehicle Act Regulations* and Inspection Program requirements. Any regulatory violations or matters of non-compliance with Inspection Program requirements may result in enforcement action against facility operators and / or authorized inspectors.

Should you have any questions or concerns regarding the new Vehicle Inspection manual or any of the related documents, please contact your local area vehicle inspector. Contact information can be found here: http://www.th.gov.bc.ca/cvse/vehicle_inspections/PDF/MVI_Phone_List.pdf. Further questions may be directed to Geoff.Ford@gov.bc.ca or by phone at 250-953-4039.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B. Kangas', with a stylized, cursive script.

Brian Kangas
Manager, Vehicle Inspections & Standards
Commercial Vehicle Safety & Enforcement